AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-7 (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) A ~~(New) The~~ process for the manufacture and separation of dinitriles from a medium originating from a hydrocyanation of unsaturated mononitriles, comprising the steps of:

a) feeding the medium comprising the dinitriles to a distillation column,

b) recovering, at the column top, compounds with a lower boiling point than that of the dinitriles,

c) recovering an intermediate fraction comprising the dinitriles from a theoretical plate situated in a lower part of the column with respect to a feed point of the medium comprising the dinitriles, and

d) recovering, at the column bottom, products with a higher boiling point than that of the dinitriles,

wherein the recovery of the intermediate fraction is carried out either without reflux or with reflux with a reflux ratio of between 1 and 6% by weight of the intermediate fraction.

9. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 8, wherein the column bottom is at a temperature of less than 200°C, optionally between 140°C and 190°C.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~The process according to claim 8~~ A process for the manufacture and separation of dinitriles from a medium originating from a hydrocyanation of unsaturated mononitriles, comprising the steps of:

a) feeding the medium comprising the dinitriles to a distillation column,

b) recovering, at the column top, compounds with a lower boiling point than that of the dinitriles,

c) recovering an intermediate fraction comprising the dinitriles from a theoretical plate situated in a lower part of the column with respect to a feed point of the medium comprising the dinitriles, and

d) recovering, at the column bottom, products with a higher boiling point than that of the dinitriles,

wherein the recovery of the intermediate fraction is carried out without reflux.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~The process according to claim 8~~ A process for the manufacture and separation of dinitriles from a medium originating from a hydrocyanation of unsaturated mononitriles, comprising the steps of:

a) feeding the medium comprising the dinitriles to a distillation column,

b) recovering, at the column top, compounds with a lower boiling point than

that of the dinitriles,

c) recovering an intermediate fraction comprising the dinitriles from a theoretical plate situated in a lower part of the column with respect to a feed point of the medium comprising the dinitriles, and

d) recovering, at the column bottom, products with a higher boiling point than that of the dinitriles,

wherein the recovery of the intermediate fraction is carried out with a reflux ratio of between 1 and 6% by weight of the intermediate fraction.

12. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 8, wherein the dinitrile compounds are compounds of following general formula (I):

NC-R-CN (I)

in which the R radical represents a saturated hydrocarbonaceous radical having from 2 to 10 carbon atoms.

13. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 12, wherein the dinitriles are adiponitrile, methylglutaronitrile or ethylsuccinonitrile.

14. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 8, wherein said process is carried out under a pressure of between 1 kPa and 5 kPa.

15. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 8, wherein the distillation column is a plate column, a packed column or a partition column.